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Borough of Haslingden.

NOTHING WITHOUT LABOUR

Annual Report

of the

School Medical Officer

for the Year ended

31st December, 1943

Haslingden Printing Works, Ltd.

Borough of Haslingden.

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MEMBERS OF THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION SUB-COMMITTEE.

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G. W. HOOD.

STAFF OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

School Medical Officer:
§ K. KNIGHT WOOD, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officer:
§ELSA A d'AMIAN, M.D., L.R.C.P. and S.
(Resigned 15th July, 1943).

School Dentist:
* F. S. HERON

School Ophthalmic Surgeon and Laryngologist:
* P. A. HARRY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon:
* S. M. MILNER, M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S.,

Speech Therapist:
*MISS E. BRADY.

School Nurses:
† MISS A. WHITELEY. † MISS MARY JONES

School Clerk:
*JOHN T. WOOD.

§ Full time with Borough of Rawtenstall.
† Also acts as Health Visitor.
* Part time.

BOROUGH OF HASLINGDEN.

To the Chairman and Members of the Elementary Education Sub-Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the health of the school children during 1943. This is a brief report on account of war time conditions.

The staff has been depleted by the resignation of the Assistant School Medical Officer, and it has been impossible to fill the vacancy so caused. This has caused a decrease in the number of routine inspections that were made. There has, however, been a considerable increase in the number of special inspections and re-inspections.

The number of children attending for treatment of minor ailments at the clinic has shown a substantial increase. Scabies, impetigo and other skin conditions have occupied much time in their treatment. Scabies is treated at the School Clinic. Cleanliness surveys by the School Nurses show that 8% of the children have unclean heads.

There has been no large outbreak of infectious disease and no school has been closed on account of these. The nutritional state of the children appears to be maintaining its level.

The Orthopaedic, Speech Therapy and Child Guidance Clinics have continued without interruption during the year.

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I would like to express my thanks to the Committee for their support during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

K. Knight Wood.

School Medical Officer.

Public Health Offices,
Haslingden,
30/3/44.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

Of the six schools for Haslingden children in the Borough, two are provided and four non-provided. The number of children on the school register at the end of the year was 1,460. In addition, Turfcote was used as an Open Air School until the 30th October, 1943, for Salford Evacuees, and Ebenezer Baptist School for evacuated Salford children.

MEDICAL INSPECTION.

One hundred and eighty-five children were examined at Routine Medical Inspections. Special inspections and re-inspections were both made at the school and the school clinic. Six hundred and thirteen special inspections and re-inspections were made. Of these, 62 were in Salford evacuee children.

TABLE (a).

Findings of Routine and Special Inspections, 1943.

Defect or Disease.	Routine Inspections. No. of Defects. Requiring treatment.	Routine Inspections. No. of Defects. Requiring to be kept under observation, but NOT requiring treatment.	Special Inspections. No. of Defects. Requiring treatment.	Special Inspections. No. of Defects. Requiring to be kept under observation, but NOT requiring treatment.
Nutrition	...	2	...	2
Ringworm—Scalp	...	...	1	1
Scabies	3	...	32	...
Impetigo	...	...	8	5
Other Skin Diseases (non T.B.)	2	...	1	...
Blepharitis	2	...	...	...
Conjunctivitis	...	...	3	1
Other Eye conditions (excluding defective vision)	5	1	...	5
Defective Vision	11	4	...	...
Squint	...	...	...	1
Defective Hearing	...	1	1	3
Other Ear Diseases	3	1	6	4
Chronic Tonsillitis only	14	12	1	12
Adenoids only	...	5	...	2
Chronic Tonsils and Adenoids	21	9	...	6
Other Nose and Throat conditions	...	...	3	19
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non T.B.)	2	6	3	5
Defective Speech	...	1	...	...
Heart Disease	...	14	...	4
Anaemia	1	...	...	1
Bronchitis	1	...	...	2
Other non-tuberculous Lung Diseases	4	19	2	4
Chorea	...	...	..	1
Other Nervous conditions	1	...	...	...
Rickets		3	...	...
Other forms of Deformity	3	1	...	3
Other defects and diseases (excluding nutrition, uncleanliness and dental diseases)	35	23	79	109
TOTAL	108	102	140	190

TABLE (b).

Findings of Re-Inspections, 1943.

Defect or Disease	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Further Observation
Nutrition	...	...
Ringworm—Scalp	1	1
Scabies	9	30
Impetigo	2	6
Other non-T.B. Skin Diseases	...	...
Conjunctivitis	...	...
Other Eye conditions (excluding defective vision)	1	...
Defective Vision	...	...
Defective Hearing	1	2
Other Ear diseases	3	5
Chronic Tonsillitis only	4	24
Adenoids only	...	1
Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	2	2
Other Nose and Throat conditions	...	2
Enlarged cervical glands (non-T.B.)	4	12
Defective speech	...	2
Heart disease	...	18
Anaemia...	...	7
Bronchitis	...	1
Other Lung Diseases	...	2
Chorea	...	1
Other forms of Deformity	...	2
Other defects and diseases (excluding uncleanliness & dental diseases)	26	77
Total	53	195

In the following paragraphs some comments are made under various headings.

(a) Nutrition:

Table II of the Appendix classifies the Nutrition of Children inspected in the Routine Age Groups. There was no visible evidence that war conditions have had any deleterious effect upon the nutrition of the children.

(b) Uncleanliness:

At Routine Inspections, where the parents have previous notice of the visit, 95.5% of the children had clean heads and 100% clean bodies.

During the year the School Nurses have made three surprise visits to each school with regard to cleanliness. At these visits 2,910 children were examined, 240 children were found to be unclean. Amongst evacuated childen, 356 were examined and 24 found unclean.

(c) Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin:

During the year 582 children attended the School Clinic for treatment of 659 minor ailments. The number of treatments given being 5,219. Details of treatment are given in the Appendix. This is a substantial increase on last year's work.

(d). Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.

TABLE (c).

Defective Vision (Routine Inspections)

Code Group	Number Examined	Number Defective	Percentage Defective
Intermediates:			
Boys ...	29	1	3.4
Girls	26	3	11.5
Leavers:			
Boys ...	26	4	15.3
Girls	33	1	3.0
Total ...	114	9	7.8

(e). Ear, Nose and Throat Defects.

Of the children examined at Routine Medical Inspections, 61 or 34.8% of those examined were found to be suffering from some defect connected with the tonsils, adenoids or both. Five children were suffering from some form of ear disease.

(f). Dental Defects.

The condition of the children's teeth found at Routine Inspections is shown below:

TABLE (d).

Dental Defects.

	Entrants		Intermediates		Leavers		All Groups Both Sexes
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
No Dental Caries ...	32	21	13	13	15	23	117
1 to 4 Decayed	6	11	14	11	10	8	60
More than 4 decayed...	...	...	2	3	1	2	8

FOLLOWING UP.

The number of home visits paid by the School Nurses to elementary school children was 149. There has been no change in the system of following up defects.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR TREATMENT.

Times of Treatment.

Minor Ailments: The Haslingden Clinic—Daily, 9 a.m.
Medical Officer's Inspection Clinic—Tuesday, 11 a.m.
Orthopaedic Clinic: 6, Kay Street, Rawtenstall—
Wednesday, 10 a.m. (Surgeon attends 4th Wednesday).
Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist:
The Haslingden Clinic—By Appointment.
Dental Clinic: The Haslingden Clinic—
Wednesday, 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Speech Therapy Clinic: The Haslingden Clinic—
Thursday (by Appointment)
Child Guidance Clinic: 1 Kay Street, Rawtenstall—
Alternate Fridays, 9-30 a.m. (By Appointment)

TREATMENT FOR EYE, NOSE, THROAT AND EAR DEFECTS.

I am indebted to Dr. P. A. Harry for the following report.

"Notwithstanding the usual careful selection of cases for nose and throat operations there has been a substantial increase in the number of patients operated upon. Tonsils and adenoids were removed from 52 children and adenoids only from 4 others. Several were treated for nasal catarrh without operation. It was explained to the parents that this condition is not one of the indications for operative treatment. The cases selected are mainly those with a history of recurrent tonsillitis, children with prolonged enlargement of the glands in the neck and young children with repeated attacks of earache and nasal obstruction. The ages of the latter usually range between 2 and 4, in these, the tonsils are not removed unless enlargement is pronounced in order to avoid the psychological trauma so prevalent at this important age period; when tonsil removal is absolutely necessary, suitable premedication is carried out.

Over 80 children were examined for eye defects. These may be divided roughly into cases complaining of eyestrain, including headache, blurred vision and inability to read for more than short periods; these form about two-thirds of the defects. The remaining third include children who are fond of reading and close work but cannot see the blackboard and dislike outdoor games. A very small percentage include cases with eye inflammations, watery eyes, cysts of the eyelids, etc. Progress at school can be impeded by both types of defects and it is necessary especially in the latter class for the children to be reinspected at certain stated periods. Actual reduction of vision as a result of these defects frequently require treatment other than the wearing of the correcting lenses. The co-operation of parents with the work of the clinic is particularly gratifying."

Orthopaedic Treatment:

Haslingden children suffering from orthopaedic defects attend the orthopaedic clinic held at the Clinic, 6 Kay Street, Rawtenstall. The Clinic is held at 10 a.m. each Wednesday. The Orthopaedic Surgeon (Mr. S. M. Milner, F.R.C.S.) attends on the 4th Wednesday. Thirty-nine Haslingden children attended; these made 35 attendances at the Surgeon's Sessions and 137 attendances at other sessions.

Dental Treatment:

Dental treatment is given at the School Clinic, Manchester Road, on Wednesdays. Details of Dental Inspections are given in Table IV of the appendix.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The incidence of Notifiable Infectious Diseases amongst School Children was:

"Notifiable" Disease	Total
Scarlet Fever	22
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary	3
Measles	10
Pneumonia	1
Whooping Cough	16
Diphtheria	1
Total	53

The incidence of Non-Notifiable Infectious Diseases amongst school children as ascertained from School Teachers was :

"Non-Notifiable" Disease	Total
Chickenpox	61
Mumps	54
Total	115

No schools were closed on account of infectious disease during 1943.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNIZATION.

During the year 171 children under 5 years of age and 143 children between the ages of 5 and 15 years received a complete course of injections against diphtheria.

At the end of the year 415 children or 51.8% of the child population under 5 years of age and 1,323 children or 88.2% of the child population between the ages of 5 and 15 years have been immunized against diphtheria since the inception of the scheme in 1941.

OPEN AIR EDUCATION.

There are no open air schools in the Borough for Haslingden Children. Turfcote, Haslingden was used to house an open air school, evacuated from Salford, until it was closed on 31st October, 1943.

PHYSICAL TRAINING.

There are two Area Organisers who work in Haslingden along with neighbouring Authorities. The number of attendances of children attending the swimming baths during the year has been: Haslingden Elementary School children 10,318; Grammar School 4568 and Salford 525.

PROVISION OF MEALS.

Table (e) gives details of the free meals supplied to Elementary School Children during 1943. School Canteens are established at the Central Council School, Stonefold School, Helmshore Council School and Turfcote Hostel.

TABLE (e).

Number of individual children to whom meals have been supplied: School	Milk	Other Meals
Central Council	14	39
Church of England	4	20
Ewood Bridge C. E.	...	1
Helmshore Council	5	11
St. Mary's R. C.	18	27
Stonefold C. E.	2	15
TOTAL	43	113

Number of Families concerned	47
Number of Meals supplied:	
(a) Milk	17,894
(b) Other meals	14,307
Cost per meal (food only)	3.65d.

Under the voluntary scheme for the supply of Pasteurised Milk to school children, 211,726 rations to Haslingden children and 6,748 to Salford Children were supplied.

CO-OPERATION OF PARENTS, TEACHERS, ETC.

At the Routine Medical Inspections, 68 children were accompanied by their parents.

Much assistance has been received from teachers during medical inspections and in referring cases to the School Medical Officer.

NURSERY SCHOOLS.

There are no Nursery Schools in the Borough. At the Elementary Schools, however, infants from about three years of age are admitted. There is a Nursery Class at the Council Infants' School. A War-time Nursery is also attached to this class.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

There is one Grammar School in the Area, which is Administrated by the Lancashire County Council.

Treatment for the Secondary School children is carried out at the Haslingden School Clinic, Routine Inspections by the County Medical Staff.

EVACUATION.

Haslingden Borough continued to be a Reception Area. The number of evacuees has continued to decline and at the end of the year there were 80 school children evacuees.

SPEECH THERAPY.

I am indebted to Miss Brady for the following report:

SPEECH THERAPIST'S REPORT, 1943.

	Speech Defects	Stammerers
No. of cases treated	22	8
Discharged as cured	6	2
Discharged on probation (further treatment probably unnecessary)...	2	1
Greatly improved	6	3
Discharged improved (unlikely to be completely normal for various reasons)	2	...
Improving	4	1
Attending less than 3 months...	2	1

APPENDIX—STATISTICAL TABLES.

TABLE I.

Medical Inspection of Children Attending Public Elementary Schools.

A.—ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups

	Has'den	Salford
Entrants...	69	1
Second Age Group	51	5
Third Age Group...	50	9
Total	170	15
Number of other Routine Inspections	Nil.	Nil.
Grand Total	170	15

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections:

Haslingden	551
Salford	62
Total	613

TABLE II.

Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected during the year in the Routine Age Groups.

Age-group	Number of Children Inspec'd	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	71	8	11.3	53	74.6	10	14.1	...	...
Second Age-group	55	3	5.5	38	69.1	14	25.4	...	...
Third Age-group	59	4	6.8	45	76.3	10	16.9	...	...
TOTAL	185	15	8.1	136	73.5	34	18.4	...	...

TABLE III.

TREATMENT TABLES.

GROUP I.—Minor Ailments (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table V.)

Disease or Defect. (1)	Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year. Under the Authority's Scheme. (2)		Otherwise. (3)		Total. (4)	
	H'den	Salford Ev'ees	H'den	Salford Ev'ees	H'den	Salford Ev'ees
Skin—						
Ringworm-Scalp	...	...	...	...	...	...
(i.) X-Ray Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...
(ii.) Other Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ringworm-Body	...	1	...	...	...	1
Scabies	59	5	...	...	59	5
Impetigo	26	...	...	...	26	...
Other Skin Disease	26	15	...	...	26	15
Minor Eye Defects (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II).	13	4	...	...	13	4
Minor Ear Defects	12	8	...	...	12	8
Miscellaneous (e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.).	253	137	...	...	253	137
Total	389	170	...	...	389	170

TABLE III—*Continued.*

GROUP II.—Defective Vision and Squint (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as minor ailments—Group I.)

	Number of defects dealt with.					
	Under the Authority's Scheme.		Otherwise.		Total.	
	H'den	Salford Ev'ees	H'den	Salford Ev'ees	H'den	Salford Ev'ees
Errors of Refraction (including Squint).	73	9	...	...	73	9
Other Defects or Diseases of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I).	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	73	9	...	...	73	9
No. of Children for whom Spectacles were :						
(*a*) Prescribed ...	62	5	...	...	62	5
(*b*) Obtained ...	61	5	...	...	61	5

Group III.—Treatment of Defects of Nose and Throat.

Number of Defects.													
Received Operative Treatment.												Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated.
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital. (1)				By Private Practitioner or Hospital apart from the Authority's Scheme. (2)				Total. (3)				(4)	(5)
(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)		
Hasl ...	ingd ...	en 38	..	...	...	39	...	...	...	77	...	...	77
Salfo ...	rd E ...	vacu 5	ees ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	5

(i) Tonsils only. (ii) Adenoids only (iii) Tonsils and adenoids.
(iv) Other defects of the nose and throat.

TABLE IV.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

(1) Number of Children who were:

Inspected by the Dentist:

	Aged:			
Routine age Groups	5	80	Total	492
	6	75		
	7	64		
	8	60		
	9	50		
	10	64		
	11	68		
	12	24		
	13-14	7		
Specials				18
TOTAL (Routine and Specials)				510

(2) Found to require treatment				437
(3) Actually treated				236
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment				236
(5) Half-days devoted to	Inspection	13	Total	62
	Treatment	49		
(6) Fillings	Permanent Teeth	52	Total	106
	Temporary Teeth	54		
(7) Extractions	Permanent Teeth	16	Total	401
	Temporary Teeth	385		
(8) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extractions				—
(9) Other Operations	Permanent Teeth	15	Total	15
	Temporary Teeth	—		

TABLE V.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

	H'den	Salford Ev'ees
(i) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	3	3
(ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	2910	356
(iii) Number of individual children found unclean	240	24
(iv) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	9	1
(v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken:		
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	—	—
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	—	...

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